

the 9th article they are authorized to enter into treaties of commerce. The moment these treaties are concluded the jurisdiction of Congress over the commerce springs into existence, and that of the particular State is superseded so far as the articles of the treaty may have taken up the subject. \* \* \* You see my primary object in the formation of treaties is to take the commerce of the States out of the hands of the States, and to place it under the superintendence of Congress so far as the imperfect provisions of our Constitution will admit, and until the States shall by new compact make them more perfect. (From a letter to James Monroe from Paris, 1785. F. IV., 56.)

COMMERCE.—I have heard with great pleasure that our assembly have come to the resolution of giving the regulation of commerce to the federal head. I will venture to assert that there is not one of its opposers who, placed on this ground, would not see the wisdom of this measure. The politics of Europe render it indispensably necessary that with respect to everything external we be one nation only, firmly hooped together. Interior Government is what each State should keep to itself. If it could be seen in Europe\* that nil our States could be brought to concur in what the Virginia assembly has done, it would produce a total revolution in their opinion of us, and respect for us. And it should ever be held in mind that insult and war are the consequences of a want of respectability in the national character. As long as the States exercise separately those acts of power which respect foreign nations, so long: will there continue to be irregularities committed by some one or other of them, which will constantly keep us on an ill footing with foreign nations. (Written from Paris to James Madison, 1786. F. IV., 192.)

COMMERCE.—I have laid my shoulder to the opening of the markets of this country to our produce, and rendering<sup>1</sup> its transportation a nursery for our seamen, A maritime force ts the only one by which we can act on Europe. Our navigation law (if it be wise to have any) should be the reverse of that of England. Instead of confining imfx)rlations to home bottoms